

**CHESHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON JANUARY 6, 2025 IN THE HUMISTON BOARD ROOM**

Committee Members Present: Mark Ecke, Chair; Dr. Anne Harrigan, Adam Grippo

Administrators Present: Dr. Jeffrey F. Solan, Superintendent of Schools

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A video of this meeting is available on the Cheshire Public School's YouTube Channel at  
[www.youtube.com/cheshirepublicschools](http://www.youtube.com/cheshirepublicschools).

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**1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Ecke called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2. Audience.**

None.

**3. Review Policies for a Second Reading:**

0521 Nondiscrimination Policy & Notice

The Committee continued their review of this policy. Dr. Solan noted we had contacted out attorneys to review our non-discrimination policies. This revised policy acts in concert with the Sexual Harassment and Title IX policy.

4000.1/4200.1/5145.44 Sexual Harassment/Title IX & Regulation

The Committee continued their review of this policy and regulation. There were no changes since the first reading. This is a completely revised policy and regulation due to the US Department of Education's 2024 amendments to its Title IX Rule.

**MOTION** by Dr. Harrigan, seconded by Mr. Grippo.

**MOVED** that the Policy Committee bring forward revised Policies #0521 Nondiscrimination and 4000.1/4200.1/5145.44 Sexual Harassment/Title IX for a second reading.

**VOTE:** The Motion passed 3-0.

**4. Review Policies for a Third Reading:**

There were no changes to these policies since the second reading.

4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting/Criminal Justice

All individuals hired for a position with a board of education must submit to state and national criminal history records checks within thirty days from the date they begin employment. In addition, there had been questions about information in the Appendix. That information was from the old regulation and is stricken from this new version.

4118.51 Rights, Responsibilities, Duties – Social Networking

This policy was reviewed by Attorney Dugas who shared some suggested revisions to the language in our existing policy. The shared revisions include, "Employees may not use their

school district title **or affiliation ...**”, “... may not **access** social media or update their status on any social networking sites during normal working hours . . .” “*shall not post or publish any information the Superintendent in his/her reasonable discretion would deem to be inappropriate*”. Dr. Solan said there are protections for Freedom of Speech.

6148 FAFSA Completion Program

This replacement policy is recommended by CAFE and required by law. The policy mandates that “*Beginning with classes graduating in 2025-2027, graduating students must have completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), completed and submitted to a public institution of higher education an application for institutional financial aid for students without legal immigration status, or completed a waiver, on a form prescribed by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) signed by the student’s parent/legal guardian or by the student if 18 years of age or older.*”

6172 Alternative Education Program

This policy and regulation are to ensure that students who are in an alternative program have access to the same educational opportunities as the standard high school. It also adds language regarding a credit recovery program. While we do not have a program through Humiston, we do through an agreement with Wallingford Board of Education.

**MOTION** by Mr. Grippo, seconded by Dr. Harrigan.

**MOVED** that the Policy Committee bring forward Policies #4112.5/4212.5 Security Check/Fingerprinting/Criminal Justice; #4118.51 Social Networking; #6148 FAFSA Completion Process and #6172 Alternative Education Program, to the full Board for a third reading and approval.

**VOTE:** The Motion passed 3-0.

5. **For Discussion**

5131.81 Electronic Devices

Dr. Solan shared an overview of the Cell Phone Survey that was shared with parents, staff and students. Dr. Solan will share the overview with the full Board at the next meeting.

6. **Adjournment.**

On a Motion by Mr. Grippo and seconded by Ecke, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark Ecke, Policy Committee Chair

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Jesensky, Board Clerk

Filed with the Cheshire Town Clerk’s Office on 1/17/2024.